

patenting over claims 1-27 of copending Application No. 09/819,584.

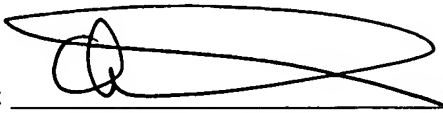
The prior art made of record has been reviewed by Applicant and is deemed not to anticipate nor render obvious the claimed invention.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the rejected claims and solicits early allowance of the application.

Respectfully submitted,

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DATE: 23 April 2003

By:   
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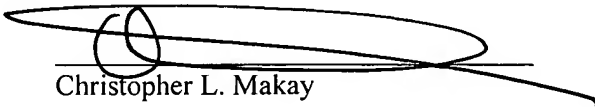
ATTORNEY FOR APPLICANT

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the dated indicated below, addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

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Christopher L. Makay